2007–2008

Saskatchewan

Provincial Budget

Performance Plan

Saskatchewan Regional Economic Co-operative Development

Minister's Message

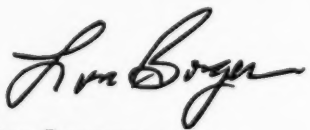
As Minister responsible for Regional Economic and Co-operative Development (RECD), it is my pleasure to submit the first Performance Plan for the Department. The Department was created to focus on, promote, and enhance economic development in Saskatchewan by bringing together the expertise and the resources necessary to help residents not only sustain, but grow local economies and services.

Engaging citizens is a critical part of policy and economic development. Through the Action Committee on the Rural Economy (ACRE), Saskatchewan has developed a significant and positive vehicle for advancing recommendations to revitalize the economy. ACRE's recommendations have supported, influenced and impacted Government policy and actions. In its 2002 report to Government, ACRE recommended that Government create an organization able to champion rural issues and initiatives. RECD is meeting this need through policy development and programming, and is doing so in collaboration with a wide range of stakeholders.

The 2007-08 Performance Plan for RECD acknowledges and builds on the essential role of promoting and enhancing regional economic development. It is the Department's goal to make regions both sustainable and growth-oriented. Key actions in the areas of investment, policy and programs, and services focus on communities and will contribute to achieving this goal.

For its contribution to wealth and job creation, community development and economic diversification, the small business sector is a major force in the Saskatchewan economy. Small business, with its entrepreneurial spirit, makes a significant impact in all communities by providing the products and services citizens need, and also by contributing economically, socially and culturally. Jobs created from new and expanding businesses and community initiatives both sustain and increase population. Although Saskatchewan has been met with challenges, it is full of opportunities for entrepreneurs – including our youth – and there are many people who have seized those opportunities.

Collaboration will be key to achieving our economic goals. Together with entrepreneurs, businesses, economic development organizations, communities, and other departments and agencies, RECD will strive to achieve our goals. The Department is committed to undertaking the key actions identified in the Performance Plan and will report the Department's progress in the 2007-08 Annual Report to be tabled in July 2008.



Lon Borgerson
Minister of Regional Economic Co-operative Development

Who We Are

MANDATE

As stated in the Department's mandate, Regional Economic Co-operative Development (RECD) strives "to lead, co-ordinate and implement policies, strategies and programs that stimulate and facilitate regional economic development. The Department provides entrepreneurs, small businesses, co-operatives, organizations and communities with services and advice which focus on business information, opportunities, business retention and expansion, and strategic partnerships".

The Department of Rural Development was created in April 2005 in order to focus on, promote and enhance rural economic development in Saskatchewan. The structuring of the Department saw Government bringing together the expertise and resources necessary to help rural residents sustain and grow local economies and services. In order to further facilitate economic development efforts, additional responsibilities related to small business and community economic development were transferred to the Department in April 2006 and the mandate was expanded beyond a mainly rural focus. Key actions in the areas of investment, policy, programs and services focus on small business and regional economic development and contribute to achieving the Department's goals.

The Department, including the eight regional offices (in Saskatoon, Regina, Prince Albert, North Battleford, Yorkton, Estevan, Swift Current and Moose Jaw), has a total of 56.9 full-time equivalents (FTE). Staff from RECD work with key businesses, stakeholders, local organizations and government agencies on economic development activities while partnering with organizations offering complementary skills and resources.

Along with responsibility for *The Department of Rural Development Act*, the Department has shared responsibility for *The Economic and Co-operative Development Act*, *The Rural Development Act* and *The Snowmobile Act*, which provide the appropriate legislative authority to carry out programming.

OVERALL RESPONSIBILITIES

Community and regional economic development initiatives are critical to sustaining and growing local economies. Additionally, Saskatchewan's small business sector plays a vital role in the dynamics of the Saskatchewan economy. More than 40,000 small businesses operate in all sectors of the Saskatchewan economy with many started and operated by local entrepreneurs. These operations have been engines of growth in the province as they establish and expand their businesses.

RECD provides tools and services to strengthen, support and encourage business, co operative, community, and regional economic development in Saskatchewan. The Department will continue to build on the achievements that Saskatchewan Industry and Resources and Agriculture and Food have had with these portfolios. More information on the Department's programs and services can be found at: www.recd.gov.sk.ca/.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

POLICY AND PLANNING

ACRE was formed in September 2000 by the Government of Saskatchewan to act as a catalyst for innovative ideas that would address the challenges and opportunities facing rural Saskatchewan. Since its inception, this industry and stakeholder committee has developed comprehensive recommendations for positive change and economic growth in rural areas. The Department supports ACRE and works with other departments, Crowns and agencies in analyzing and implementing ACRE's recommendations where feasible.

The Department also analyzes, develops and designs policies and programs related to economic development. An example of RECD's leadership on economic development initiatives includes the provincial biofuels strategy, which promises economic and environmental benefits for the entire province. Tying policy support with programming maximizes the impact of government resources targeted at regional economic development.

INVESTMENT PROGRAMS

The Department administers the Small Business Loans Association (SBLA) Program. Associations within the SBLA Program can access an interest-free line of credit from which they in turn provide loans to new and existing businesses. This programming targets businesses that may not be able to access necessary funds through traditional means to start, improve or expand their businesses. Since 1989, over $60 million has been loaned to more than 10,100 entrepreneurs creating or maintaining over 27,000 jobs. Over 90 per cent of loan activity takes place outside of Regina and Saskatoon from the more than 230 active SBLAs.

As an enhancement to the SBLA Program, the Youth Opportunities Unleashed Program targets 18-34 year olds with mentorship and training programs. Young entrepreneurs are given the skills needed for the long-term success of their business enterprise.

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT, SUPPORT AND DELIVERY

RECD staff provide counselling, assessment, information and referral services to facilitate and encourage entrepreneurship; business networks and alliances; economic development efforts; and, business development, retention and expansion. Programming is targeted at an individual, community and regional level.

RECD supports a number of programs and initiatives used in business and community economic development efforts and sound business decision-making. The Saskbiz website (www.saskbiz.ca) provides community and regional profile information, which supports investment attraction and site selection by businesses looking to move into, expand or locate elsewhere in the province. The Canada-Saskatchewan Business Service Centre (CSBSC) is a joint partnership between the Governments of Canada and Saskatchewan that provides information and referrals on government programs, services and activities to new and existing businesses. Technical information is provided to thousands of clients each year through in-person visits, phone calls and an extensive website. There are 16 Regional Access sites across the province, providing local access to CSBSC services. The Saskatchewan Made Program assists Saskatchewan manufacturers in identifying their products as "Saskatchewan Made".

Saskatchewan has a strong co-operative sector evidenced by approximately 1,100 co-operatives and credit unions. These range from small community service organizations to some of Saskatchewan's largest businesses. The Department supports the promotion and development of new and expanding co operatives through technical assistance, administration of the Co-operative Development Assistance Program, and funding to the Centre for Co-operative Studies.

Through funding arrangements, RECD supports Neighbourhood Development Organizations on strategies that build community and resident capacity in inner cities.

RECD also has responsibility for administration of the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Trail Fund. Funding is garnered through registration fees, which are in turn provided to the Saskatchewan Snowmobile Trail Manager for operations and trail maintenance.

Since 1993 RECD has provided funding and support to the Regional Economic Development Authorities (REDAs) throughout the province. REDAs access grant funding, based on matching dollars, to provide economic development services to their regions. REDAs have become strong, community-driven organizations who have pooled their resources, engaged in strategic partnerships with key economic stakeholders, and developed action plans to drive economic development activities in their regions. Collectively, projects and initiatives undertaken by REDAs have yielded capital investments totalling over $180 million contributing to the creation

and maintenance of over 840 jobs. The REDA Enhancement Fund provides further funding for special development projects undertaken by REDAs with 238 projects funded since 1998-99. These projects and initiatives have translated into significant capital investments, estimated at over $89 million, as well as the associated job creation. In addition, the REDA Youth Employment Program provides REDAs with funding and training to hire business students or recent graduates. To date, 156 employment opportunities have been created. Experience gained through this Program has resulted in many participants securing full-time economic development positions in Saskatchewan.

Plan at a Glance

This is the first Performance Plan to be released by the Department of Regional Economic and Co-operative Development (RECD). The Performance Plan identifies strategic outcomes for RECD as it strives to achieve its vision of "thriving and diversified regional economies supported by dynamic and competitive businesses and sustainable communities". The Plan reflects the strategic decisions required to implement and support programming and services.

The Performance Plan will evolve and be refined as the Department matures and progresses towards its goals and objectives. The goals and objectives are multi-year in nature, with key actions indicating how the objectives will be met in 2007-08. Several measures have been developed to gauge progress at meeting the objectives. Reporting on actual versus planned progress on the Department's Plan will take place in the 2007-08 Annual Report.

VISION

Thriving and diversified regional economies supported by dynamic and competitive businesses and sustainable communities

GOAL 1

Regional economic opportunities are realized

OBJECTIVE 1 – *Attraction, retention and growth of businesses and co-operatives*

Performance Measures

- Number of inquiries for business and co-operative information and support
- Dollar value of SBLA loans approved
- Number of SBLA loans approved
- Number of small businesses in Saskatchewan
- Employment by small businesses in Saskatchewan

OBJECTIVE 2 – *Support of industry development opportunities*

Performance Measure

- Litres of biofuel production capacity in Saskatchewan

GOAL 2

Stakeholders working collaboratively to maximize regional opportunities

OBJECTIVE 1 – *Regional economic development perspectives influence government policy*

Performance Measure

- Significant progress on program and policy development

OBJECTIVE 2 – *Increased capacity of economic development stakeholders*

Performance Measures

- Number of youth participating in REDA Youth Employment Program
- Dollars leveraged by REDAs for REDA Enhancement Fund projects and initiatives
- Dollars in capital investment yielded

2007-08 Financial Overview

Saskatchewan Regional Economic Co-operative Development will expend $12.113 million in 2007-08 to deliver its programs and services throughout the province. The distribution of Department spending by program area is shown below.

2007-08 ESTIMATES	*(in thousands of dollars)*	
Central Management and Services	$	2,371
Policy and Planning		720
Investment Programs		4,951
Industry Development		3,360
Co-operatives		684
Total Appropriation		12,086
Capital Asset Acquisitions		-
Capital Asset Amortization	$	27
Total Expense	$	12,113
FTE Staff Complement		56.9

Trends and Issues

The foundation of where and how people live, work and do business has changed dramatically. The world is a global marketplace creating both opportunities and challenges. Following is a summary of the major trends and issues relating to small business and economic development that impact programming of the Department.

The province is full of economic potential and has an abundance of resources, yet many smaller communities have stopped growing, with a trend towards urbanization. Changes in Saskatchewan related to population, demographics, economics and infrastructure mirror those seen throughout North America, particularly the mid-west. For instance, 34.8 per cent of Saskatchewan's population are rural and small town residents (rural and small towns defined as those with less than 1,000 people or a density of less than 400 persons per square kilometre, 2006 Census), much higher than the national rural share of 19.8 per cent (2006 Census). However, the population in rural Saskatchewan continues to decline. If income is too low or job opportunities are not available, people leave communities to move to larger urban centres or leave the province to pursue other opportunities. In-migrants also have a tendency to move to the larger urban centres. The associated reduction in a community's population has an impact on businesses, infrastructure, investment, employment and its overall economic health.

Over the years there has been a fundamental change in the way people live, learn, access recreation and conduct business resulting in an expansion of traditional community boundaries. Today, many communities cannot undertake effective economic development on their own and do not have sufficient resources to provide adequate services or infrastructure to retain their population. A limited number of Saskatchewan's smaller urban centres are experiencing positive growth as they become regional service centres for a wider trading network. However, many communities lack the critical mass needed to support cultural and entertainment amenities. The labour supply is often insufficient and ill-prepared to support new business activity, innovation and entrepreneurship. These labour and skill shortages are expected to broaden and intensify. Businesses and communities in Saskatchewan are also increasingly affected by changes brought about through globalization, which has created fierce competition. They are adept at capitalizing on opportunities; however, there will be a significant need for job creation in Saskatchewan that will attract and retain youth.

The potential exists throughout the province to enhance regional resiliency and generate new economic activity that would complement industry and business development and contribute to increased competitiveness. To capture opportunities, businesses, communities and regions will need to find new ways of collaborating in this global economy and of creating innovative ways of generating jobs and income. They will need to focus efforts on their competitive advantages.

It will be important to provide job opportunities and the necessary infrastructure to attract and retain residents.

The small business sector is a major force in the Saskatchewan economy in its contribution to wealth and job creation, community development and economic diversification. Small business and entrepreneurial spirit make a significant impact on communities and regions by not only providing the products and services citizens need, but also by contributing to their local communities economically, socially and culturally. As well, jobs created from new and expanding businesses drive population growth. The health of small business is crucial to the long-term success of the economy. Most regions are becoming more dependent on their entrepreneurs to sustain their economic base. Increasing global competition and opportunities will require an ever-increasing entrepreneurial capability. The economic impact of small business is evident:

- Small businesses, defined as those with 0-50 employees, constitutes 20 per cent of the GDP in Saskatchewan (BC Statistical Service, 2005).
- Saskatchewan has the largest concentration of business establishments (small, medium and large) in Canada at 96.3 business establishments per 1,000 people for a total of 94,904 businesses (Statistics Canada, Business Register, June 2006).
- There are 29,278 small businesses, defined as those employing 1-49 people, employing 161,500 people in the province (Statistics Canada, Business Register, January 2007).
- Sixty-three per cent of small businesses are located outside of Regina and Saskatoon (Statistics Canada December 2004).
- Although the total number of businesses in rural Saskatchewan (outside of Regina and Saskatoon) declined by 6.6 per cent between 1998 and 2003, businesses with more than 20 employees increased in number during the same period ("Rural Businesses in Saskatchewan" Sask Trends Monitor, Preliminary Research Findings).

Community economic foundations that will retain and attract businesses can be built by responding to the needs of business. The birth and expansion of small business depends, in part, on the availability of information and advice on business planning, training and access to financing. Businesses and developers need to be equipped with the tools, methods, models and information that will help them build capacity, create wealth and ensure prosperity. As such, many of RECD's programming and policy initiatives are focused on growth, retention and investment in existing business.

Many people are potential investors or business owners and are considering investment or business opportunities. Each community and region will have its own opportunities and strengths that can be built upon. RECD provides funding, programs and services to support those individuals and groups interested in particular projects and business opportunities. There is also a tremendous opportunity to engage youth, and First Nations and Métis peoples in the labour force, and to participate in investment and business opportunities. Optimal participation will be achieved with appropriate education and training programs such as those

offered by the Youth Opportunities Unleased and REDA Youth Employment Programs.

Industry and business diversity also contribute to overall economic sustainability. There is a tremendous opportunity for the province in the development of the biofuels industry with both economic and environmental benefits. With a proposed federal mandate for both ethanol and biodiesel, Saskatchewan has a great opportunity to develop several production facilities for these products, including opportunities for community and producer involvement. In conjunction with the development of these production facilities, there is opportunity to provide feedstocks or utilize by-products to produce other goods, or develop research capacity. Biofuel is only one example of Saskatchewan's pursuit of new opportunities.

Government policy and programming can have a direct impact on business decisions through the creation of a positive business climate and provision of relevant information. Many factors affect investment and business development decisions such: as access to markets; the availability of a skilled workforce; availability and quality of infrastructure; availability of financing; the regulatory environment; and, the business climate. Through policy input and development and programming at an individual and community level, RECD strives to create a positive business climate for investment and identifies business and investment opportunities for communities and residents.

To be successful, a critical mass of regional stakeholders must be engaged and work together in economic development efforts. This includes the building of strategic partnerships between municipal, provincial, federal, business and key economic stakeholders. Efforts will need to focus on addressing the economic foundations for business: innovation, workforce/human resources, financing, infrastructure, business climate, quality of life and marketing. Research is pointing to the need for more collaborative and comprehensive approaches to economic development and a need to put more emphasis on business and industry within regions. A community's ability to co-operate regionally may, in part, determine its ability to compete globally and be able to sustain itself in the long-term. Regions that can provide critical inputs that industry needs, such as skilled workers, technological innovation or financing, have become stronger players in the new economy.

While the current local structure may be adequate for a very limited number of functions, economic development will require a different model. In order to retain their services and population, there will be an increasing need and desire for communities to work together on economic development efforts whether it be enhancing and expanding opportunities already in place, or exploring and developing new opportunities. Some communities are already working closely together on regional economic development initiatives such as cluster strategies, while others are just beginning to consider the possibilities. A number of other stakeholders are involved in economic development efforts and/or benefit from economic development and must be included in these collaborative efforts.

These concepts need to be fostered and community capacity built to be successful. RECD plays a key role in establishing and fostering these relationships and collaborative efforts by providing leadership in developing and implementing policies, strategies and programs to help individuals, communities and regions realize their economic potential and compete globally.

Through its policy and programming initiatives, RECD strives to positively influence economic development, which will, in turn, sustain or grow businesses, jobs, the population, and the economy. Through collaboration and focusing on the economic foundations for business individuals, communities and regions will be better positioned to capture economic opportunities.

Goals, Objectives, Actions and Measures

This section contains the detailed 2007-08 Performance Plan for the Department of Regional Economic Co-operative Development, which is the first Performance Plan to be released by the Department. The Plan supports advancement towards our vision of "thriving and diversified regional economies supported by dynamic and competitive businesses and sustainable communities".

A number of multi-year objectives have been established to support progress toward each broad goal statement. Performance measures and actions will evolve and be refined as the Department matures and progresses towards its goals and objectives. For each objective, a set of key actions and related performance measures have been developed to assist tracking toward the stated objectives.

The Department provides service to a broad geographic area, and each community and region within that area has its own unique needs and challenges. For example, capacity of key economic development stakeholders, economic opportunities, and investment capacity varies from region to region. RECD works with key businesses, stakeholders, local organizations, and government agencies on economic development activities, partners with those offering complementary skills and resources, and garners input on programming and policies. Some key partners include, but are not limited to:

- Regional Economic Development Authorities;
- Regional Economic Development Authorities Working Group;
- Small Business Loans Associations;
- Action Committee on the Rural Economy;
- Saskatchewan Co-operatives Association;
- Minister's Co-operative Advisory Council;
- Circle of Economic Partners Advisory Council;
- Neighbourhood Development Organizations; and,
- Saskatchewan Renewable Fuels Working Group.

As much of the work RECD does is in collaboration with or through the funding of stakeholders, the success of economic development initiatives is closely tied to their capacity and ability. As the Department covers a broad geographical area, the resource cost involved in delivering programs and services to stakeholders is significant. Other issues impact uptake or success of certain programming areas, with adjustments made to recognize these influences. Programming is continually reviewed for potential efficiencies and enhancements.

Through its policy and programming initiatives, RECD strives to positively influence economic development, which will in turn grow or sustain businesses, jobs, the population, and the economy. Through collaboration and by focusing on the economic foundations for businesses, all individuals, communities and regions will be better positioned to capture economic opportunities. The Performance Plan outlines the key actions that RECD will undertake to achieve this.

GOAL 1

Regional economic opportunities are realized

OBJECTIVE 1 – *Attraction, retention and growth of businesses and co-operatives*

The adoption of effective business practices and access to capital is critical to the long-term competitiveness, sustainability and growth of Saskatchewan's business sector. Those undertaking business activity within Saskatchewan, either from the province or elsewhere, need to be well informed to make appropriate business decisions. Businesses and co-operatives need to be equipped with pertinent tools, methods, models, skills and information to succeed. The Department helps attract, sustain and grow businesses and co-operatives by developing, implementing and promoting economic development strategies, information, programs and initiatives at an individual, community, regional and provincial level.

Key Actions for 2007-08

- Promote and administer business and co-operative funding programs.
- Provide information, training and advisory services.
- Develop and implement business and regional economic development strategies, models and tools.
- Promote economic development opportunities, successes and information.

What are we measuring?	**Progress to date**
Number of inquries for business and co-operative information and support	325,866 *[2006-07]*

Among other things, new and existing businesses and co-operatives require timely information and expertise in order to establish, sustain and grow. This measure provides a gauge of interest by the population in business and co-operative development. It also measures the uptake of information the Department provides related to the development of small businesses and co-operatives. This measure is comprised of regional office and Canada-Saskatchewan Business Service Centre (CSBSC) office inquiries and CSBSC Internet inquiries.

What are we measuring?	Progress to date
Dollar value of Small Business Loans Association (SBLA) loans approved	$4,041,431 *[2006-07]*

What are we measuring?	Progress to date
Number of SBLA loans approved	378 loans *[2006-07]*

The difficulty in obtaining financing has been noted as a key hurdle to overcome in starting or expanding a small business. The SBLA Program is one mechanism for small businesses to access capital. The amount of capital provided through the SBLA Program can be viewed as a quantitative measure of business establishment and expansion in Saskatchewan. The number of those accessing the SBLA Program is also a measure of the demand for loans by the business sector outside of traditional financing mechanisms. Job creation and retention are two of the tangible benefits of the Program with several hundred jobs being created and hundreds more retained as a result, at least in part, of SBLA activity. Several factors, among them interest rates, directly affect the uptake of the Program. As the cost of financing rises and falls, decisions regarding accessing financed capital are impacted.

What are we measuring?	Progress to date
Number of small businesses in Saskatchewan	29,278 small businesses *[Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register, January, 2007]*

What are we measuring?	Progress to date
Employment by small businesses in Saskatchewan	161,500 people *[Source: Statistics Canada, Business Register, January, 2007]*

Government provides programming and policies that encourage the establishment and growth of small businesses in the province. These measures provide an overall indication of the size of the small business sector in Saskatchewan (defined as those employing 1-49 people) and its impact on employment.

OBJECTIVE 2 *– Support of industry development opportunities*

The establishment and expansion of industry in Saskatchewan contributes to the overall provincial economy through job creation and economic activity. In addition, it provides for the diversification and sustainability of the province's economic base. The Department supports industry development opportunities through strategy and policy development and project co-ordination.

Key Actions for 2007-08

- Develop and implement a provincial biofuels strategy.
- Co-ordinate and facilitate special projects and research.

What are we measuring?	**Progress to date**
Litres of biofuel production capacity in Saskatchewan	167 million litres of production capacity of ethanol and 5 million litres of production capacity of biodiesel *[2006-07]*

Biofuels is an emerging sector within the province that has the potential to contribute significantly to the economy. Investment by stakeholders in these facilities is substantial. As well, the establishment and expansion of biofuel facilities also contributes to the creation and retention of related jobs. The Department supports development of the industry through policy and programming development. Programming and policy development target both existing and new biofuel facilities. This is a quantitative measure of the state of the biofuels industry in Saskatchewan.

GOAL 2

Stakeholders working collaboratively to maximize regional opportunities

OBJECTIVE 1 *– Regional economic development perspectives influence government policy*

Legislation, regulation and policy directly impact the amount and success of economic development activities in Saskatchewan. By having a regional presence, RECD is positioned to liaise with stakeholders within the community. Stakeholders often identify programs or policies that may be impeding or encouraging economic development. It is also important to consider rural, regional and economic development issues and perspectives in program and policy development. The Department develops and provides input into legislation, policies and programs that will create a positive business climate to attract, retain and expand business in the province resulting in strong, regional economies. The Department also provides information on legislation, policies and programs impacting businesses and stakeholders to ensure awareness and understanding of both government and non-government stakeholders when undertaking economic development initiatives and policy development.

Key Actions for 2007-08

- Facilitate the development of government policy and programs by considering recommendations provided by departmental advisory bodies.
- Analyze and provide recommendations on policies and programs undertaken by other departments and agencies.

What are we measuring?	Progress to date
Significant progress on program and policy development	Under development

OBJECTIVE 2 – *Increased capacity of economic development stakeholders*

The Department helps to stimulate economic projects and initiatives by collaborating with public and private sector economic development organizations at a local, regional and provincial level. The success of these initiatives is often dependent on the capacity of these organizations to initiate and undertake programming. To ensure there is sufficient capacity within these organizations, RECD provides training, funding and strategic support.

Key Actions for 2007-08

- Provide economic development skills training.
- Facilitate continued development of economic development organizations.

What are we measuring?	Progress to date
Number of youth participating in Regional Economic Development Authoritie (REDA) Youth Employment Program	18 youth *[2006-07]*

Access to qualified economic development practitioners is critical to undertaking effective economic development efforts. The REDA Youth Employment Program provides funding and training for young practitioners working for REDAs. Often these individuals are pursuing careers in the economic development field and are staying in Saskatchewan to do so. This measure will help to track both the extent to which young people are engaged in economic development efforts, and the availability of provincially trained economic development practitioners.

What are we measuring?	Progress to date
Dollars leveraged by REDAs for REDA Enhancement Fund projects and initiatives	An increase from 2005-06 of $1.2 million for a total of $5.3 million *[2006-07]*

What are we measuring?	Progress to date
Dollars in capital investment yielded	An increase from 2005-06 of $12.8 million for a total of $89.1 million *[2006-07]*

REDAs complete previously initiated and begin new projects and initiatives on an ongoing basis. These projects and initiatives are designed to stimulate and support economic development within their regions. Quantitative measures of economic activity may be indicated by the contributions from several sources to projects and initiatives undertaken and funded, at least in part, by accessing the REDA Enhancement Fund. As projects may take between three to seven years for completion, the figures reflect the final year of development activity. This measure is greatly impacted by the ability of the REDAs to source matching investment dollars, which is beyond the Department's control.

For More Information

If you would like to obtain further information about Saskatchewan Regional Economic and Co-operative Development, ask questions, or provide comments on the Performance Plan, please contact us:

By mail:

Regional Economic and Co-operative Development
200 - 3085 Albert Street
REGINA SK S4S 0B1

By phone:

1-800-265-2001

For further information relating to the Department's programs, please visit us online at:

www.recd.gov.sk.ca/